



‘WRAIR Forward’

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COMMANDER'S CORNER

The U.S. Army Medical Research Unit-Europe celebrates its twentieth year in Europe on 1 September. Looking back, the unit has much to be proud of. It has provided support for every major military operation that the USAREUR force has been involved in over the past two decades, to include deploying with USAREUR units during the Gulf War, and most recently with units to enhance the medical readiness of the forward-deployed soldier in Bosnia. Ardant du Picq got it right when he said over one hundred and twenty-five years ago, "The man is the first weapon of battle. Let us study the soldier, for it is he who brings reality to it." As we begin our next twenty years in Europe, we will continue to focus our research on maintaining the medical readiness of the forward-deployed soldier.

-Major Carl A. Castro

NATO/PfP Workshop in Heidelberg

The NATO/Partnership for Peace Workshop on "Psychological Readiness for Multinational Operations: Directions for the 21st Century," took place in Heidelberg 7-9 July at the Village Pavilion. The Workshop focused on identifying effective strategies and techniques for increasing psychological readiness of troops across all phases of a mission, including preparation, training, sustainment and redeployment.

There were a total of 70 participants from 23 NATO and PfP countries. The breakout was 10 NATO countries (Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, United Kingdom, and United States of America) and 13 PfP countries (Austria, Czech Republic, Republic of Estonia, Finland, Republic of Hungary, Republic of Lithuania, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, and Sweden).

The Workshop was conducted by the USAMRU-E in cooperation with HQ NATO's Defence Research Section, Brussels. Funding for the event was derived from corporate sponsors (AT&T; LANIER Deutschland GmbH; National Louis University; and University of Maryland - Professional Development Program), as well as from military sources (HQ, EUCOM, PfP Program, NATO Defence Research Section, and HQ, USAREUR Command Surgeon's Office).

Operation Joint Endeavor Briefings

For the past two years, the USAMRU-E has conducted a longitudinal study of the USAREUR soldier in Bosnia. The goal was to assess the psychological health, morale, and commitment of the soldier throughout OJE/OJG. During all phases of the study, we have provided feedback and recommendations to commanders based on our findings. We have just completed analyzing the results of the redeployment phase. Below is an overview of these findings:

Summary of OJE Redeployment Findings

- Soldiers were concerned about leaders failing to take care of them & their families
- Commitment & belief in unit effectiveness were high
- Soldiers gave high ratings to their weapons and equipment during OJE
- MWR activities received positive ratings
- Divorce & separations that occurred during & following OJE had multiple causes
- Attitudes toward peacekeeping became more favorable over the course of the operation

The complete brief can be obtained by calling our unit at DSN: 371-2626.

Bartone, P. T., Britt, T. W., & Adler, A. B. (1997, July 25). **Outbriefing for BG (P) Maude: V Corps/USAREUR OJE Redeployment survey: Summary report.** USAREUR ODSPER, Campbell Barracks.

Castro, C. A., Britt, T. W., & Adler, A. B. (1997, August 4). **Operation Joint Endeavor: Redeployment assessment of V Corps/ USAREUR soldiers.** Briefing prepared for BG (P) Maude (staffed through LTC Degenhardt; COL Richard). USAREUR ODSPER, Campbell Barracks.

Visit us on the web for a story on the Workshop produced by USAREUR Public Affairs Office:

<http://www.hqusareur.army.mil/enb/pfp.htm>

TCT Event Number ES-417 to ESTONIA

CPT Britt, USAMRU-E, and LTC Bruce Crow, chief clinical psychologist in USAREUR, briefed the Estonian military and civil emergency relief agencies as part of a Partnership for Peace Traveling Contact Team (TCT) in August. CPT Britt provided briefings on what the U.S. Army does to prepare its soldiers psychologically for military peacekeeping operations. LTC Crow provided briefings on combat stress control and how the U.S. used mental health assets to restore readiness following the terrorist bombing in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

Publication on PfP in Albania

A traveling contact team (the authors) traveled to Albania to provide information to the country's military sociologists. The military-to-military contact included instruction on psychological issues associated with peacekeeping operations in connection with NATO's PfP program. The new article discusses topics which were of interest to the Albanians, as well as lessons for future PfP exchanges.

Adler, A. B., & Bartone, P. T. (1997, July). Military psychologists and the Partnership for Peace Program in Albania. **Military Medicine**, 162 (7), 492-494.

Presentations/Military Briefing

Britt, T. W. (1997, August 11-21). **Improving U.S. soldier readiness through psychological preparation.** Traveling Contact Team Event Number ES-417 to Estonia.

Britt, T. W. (1997, August 11-21). **Stress, work, and the psychological impact of operations other than war (OOTW).** Traveling Contact Team Event Number ES-417 to Estonia.

Britt, T. W. (1997, August 15-19). **Psychological ambiguities in peacekeeping operations.** Paper presented at the symposium on The Psychology of Peacekeeping at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Chicago.

Adler, A. B., & Bartone, P. T. (1997, August 15-19). **International survey of military psychologists.** Poster presentation at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Chicago.

Adler, A. B. (1997, August 17). **Human dimensions research: Research for the soldier.** Invited speaker presentation at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Chicago.

Adler, A. B., & Castro, C. A. (1997, August 26).

Optempo/burnout survey: Final report. Briefing prepared for USAREUR ODCSPER (staffed through LTC William Grewe).

Force Surveillance

Status of Psychological Screening Program

Throughout the Bosnia deployment, the USAMRU-E has assisted the EUCOM surgeon in developing a medical redeployment screening program. This program consists of a brief on the medical threat in the area of operations, a blood draw that is maintained for future reference, a medical questionnaire, and a psychological questionnaire. The USAMRU-E developed procedures for implementing and scoring the psychological questionnaire. In addition, the USAMRU-E created, and is currently maintaining, the psychological database of approximately 40,000 entries. We anticipate receiving an additional 24,000 surveys during FY98.

Castro, C. A. (1997, August 11). **Medical redeployment screening for Operation Joint Endeavor troops: Psychological Battery.** Brief presented to COL Russell J. Kilpatrick, U.S. European Command Surgeon.

Change of Command Ceremony

The U.S. Army Medical Research Unit's change of command ceremony between MAJ Paul T. Bartone (outgoing commander) and MAJ Carl A. Castro (incoming commander) took place on 18 July at the U.S. Army Hospital-Heidelberg auditorium. COL Ernest T. Takafuji, commander, WRAIR, presided over the ceremony and passing of the guidon. Major Bartone was awarded the MSM for outstanding meritorious service.

“Hail & Farewell”

MAJ Carl A. Castro arrived in Heidelberg in July following a brief tour at the Department of Military Psychiatry, WRAIR. His wife Lisa and children Colin and Corin arrived in Germany on 27 August.

MAJ Paul T. Bartone, his wife Jocelyn and daughters Dianna and Christina, departed Heidelberg on 1 August. MAJ Bartone's new assignment is at the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership, U.S. Military Academy, West Point, NY.

CPT Robert V. Bienvenu and wife Beth arrived in-country on 18 August from Bloomington, IN. CPT Bienvenu will be CPT Britt's replacement when he leaves next month.

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Commander, USAMRU-E
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